

National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594

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Brief of Accident

Adopted

ATL85FA011					
File No. 2927	10/17/1984	FANCY GAP, VA	Aircraft Reg No. N83475	Time (Local): 18:00 EDT	
Make/Model:	Beech / QU-22A 1074		Fatal	Serious	Minor/None
Engine Make/Model:	Continental / TSIO-520-D		Crew 1	0	0
Aircraft Damage:	Destroyed		Pass 0	0	0
Number of Engines:	1				
Operating Certificate(s):	None				
Type of Flight Operation:	Business				
Reg. Flight Conducted Under:	Part 91: General Aviation				
Last Depart. Point: UNKNOWN			Condition of Light: Day		
Destination: UNKNOWN			Weather Info Src: Weather Observation Facility		
Airport Proximity: Off Airport/Airstrip			Basic Weather: Instrument Conditions		
			Lowest Ceiling: 1000 Ft. AGL, Overcast		
			Visibility: 3.00 SM		
			Wind Dir/Speed: 040 / 007 Kts		
			Temperature (°C): 20		
			Precip/Obscuration:		
Pilot-in-Command	Age:	Flight Time (Hours)			
Certificate(s)/Rating(s)		Total All Aircraft: Unk/Nr			
		Last 90 Days: Unk/Nr			
		Total Make/Model: Unk/Nr			
Instrument Ratings		Total Instrument Time: UnK/Nr			

AT ABOUT THE 2,800 FT LEVEL THE ACFT FLEW INTO THE MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN WHICH WAS OBSCURED BY CLOUDS. WITNESSES OBSERVED 2 PREVIOUS ATTEMPTS TO FLY OVER THE RISING TERRAIN UNDER THE CLOUD LAYER. DEPARTURE AND DEST ARPT, PLT IDENTITY, AND ACFT OWNER ARE ALL UNKNOWN. LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS ESTIMATE THAT APRX 1,000 LBS OF MARIJUANA WERE ABOARD THE ACFT. MOST OF THE WRECKAGE WAS DESTROYED BY POST CRASH FIRE. THE ACFT WAS ORIGINALLY MANUFACTURED AS A DRONE FOR THE U.S. ARMY. IT WAS SIMILAR TO A BEECH DEBONAIR, A TOTAL OF 12 WERE BUILT.

Brief of Accident (Continued)

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Occurrence #1: IN FLIGHT ENCOUNTER WITH WEATHER
Phase of Operation: MANEUVERING

Findings

1. (C) FLIGHT INTO KNOWN ADVERSE WEATHER - ATTEMPTED - PILOT IN COMMAND
 2. (C) SELF-INDUCED PRESSURE - PILOT IN COMMAND
 3. (C) WEATHER CONDITION - CLOUDS
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Occurrence #2: IN FLIGHT COLLISION WITH TERRAIN/WATER
Phase of Operation: DESCENT - UNCONTROLLED

Findings

4. (F) TERRAIN CONDITION - MOUNTAINOUS/HILLY
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Occurrence #3: FIRE
Phase of Operation: OTHER

Findings Legend: (C) = Cause, (F) = Factor

The National Transportation Safety Board determines the probable cause(s) of this accident as follows.